measures. The measures for administrative reforms taken by the Government include, amongst others, steps under the programme of responsive adminstration, simplification of procedures, delegation of authority, enforcement of accountability and prompt and symapthetic redressal of public grievance. On the Police Reforms the recommendations made by the National Police Commission in 1979—81 which could not be implemented, are being examined by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri J.F. Reberio to suggest ways and means for implementation. The Committee is required to submit its report within 6 months w.e.f. 25.5.98. Administrative reforms, however, is an ongoing process and will continue to engage the attention of the Government in future.

Appointment of Governors

3892. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government made any study into the suggestions of Sarkaria Commission on the appointment of Governors and their functions;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to follow the Sarkaria Commission with regard to appointment of Governors;

(c) whether Government are aware of the criticism of earlier State Governments on the observations of the Governors; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to maintain cordial and constitutional relations between the State Governments and Governors?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (d) The recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations in regard to the appointment and role of Governors have been considered by the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council. However, the Inter-State Council is yet to take a view in the matter. The Central Government is committed to taking suitable steps to ensure harmonious Centre-State relations in the light of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

जम्मू और कश्मीर में उग्रवाद का मुकाबला करने में सेना की भूमिका

3893. श्री राम गोपाल यादव:
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सेना को जम्मू और कश्मीर के आतंकवाद ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में आतंकवादियों का पीछा करने अथवा उन्हें मारने का अधिकार नहीं; है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) आतंकवादियों का पीछा करने अथवा उन्हें मारने के लिये सेना को अधिकार देने के मामले में सरकार का निर्णय क्या है?

गृह मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी): (क) से (ग) सशस्त्र सेना विशेष शक्तियां अधिनियम (जम्मू और कश्मीर), 1990 में सरकारी अधिसूचना के जरिये विक्षुब्ध क्षेत्र घोषित किये गये क्षेत्रों में उग्रवादियों से निपटने के लिये सेना को कतिपय विशेष शक्तियां प्रदान की गयी। इस समय, जम्मू और कश्मीर में, कश्मीर घाटी के सभी 6 जिले और पुंछ और राजौडी जिलों में नियंत्रण रेखा के साथ-साथ 20 किलोमीटर लम्बी पट्टी इस श्रेणी में पड़ती है। अधिसूचना के तहत जो क्षेत्र कवर नहीं किये गये हैं उनमें जब कभी सिविल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा मांग की जाती है तो उनकी सहायता के लिये सेना तैनात की जाती है।

Terrorism in J & K

3894. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale measures have been carried out by militant outfits in Jammu and Kashmir during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for recurrence of such incidents;

(d) the steps Government have taken to prevent such ghastly incidents in Jammu and Kashmir;

(e) whether Government propose to hand over the troubled areas completely to the army; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Militancy related incidents in J&K, aiming at soft targets like innocent and unarmed villagers have taken place during the last six months. During the year, 438 civilians have been killed till 30.6.98. Some of the major incidents perpetrated by the militants recently include killing of 23 persons in Wandhama village (Srinagar) on January 25/26, 1998, killing of 26 persons at Parankot — Dhakikote villages (Udhampur Distt.) on 17/18 April 1998, killing of 9 persons in Doda and 4 persons in Surankot (Poonch Distt.) between May 4 and 6, 1998, and killing of 25 persons of marriage parties in Champnari village (Doda) on 19 June 1998. The aim of the militants is to strike soft targets by cowardly and sneak attacks in a bid to terrorise the people and vitiate the environment.

(d) Intensive anti-militancy operations are being undertaken. The security forces/State Police have been redeployed at the strategic places to instil confidence in the people in the vulnerable areas. Close vigil is also being kept by the security forces along the border/LOC and in the interior areas.

(e) and (f) Army is operating in the counter-insurgency operations in J&K under the overall directions of the State Government/Unified HQrs.

Freedom Fighter's Pension

3895. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications for pension to freedom fighters from Maharashtra are still pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) by when all the freedom fighters from the State will be granted pension?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No fresh application for grant of freedom fighters pension pertaining to the State of Maharashtra is pending with the Government as on date.

(b) to (d) In view of reply to (a) above the Question does not arise.

Central Team for West Bengal

3896. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of West Bengal objected for sending the three member team by the Central Government to assess the law and order situation in the State;

(b) what were the reasons given by the West Bengal Government and the Chief Minister of West Bengal in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government to the objections raised by Government of West Bengal and Chief Minister of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Reservations were expressed by some political leaders, particularly from West Bengal, about the constitutionality of sending Central Teams to the States to assess the law and order situation.